

K I E N H O A P R O V I N C E

(March 15, 1966)

ROBERT BURNS

USOM Provincial Rep.

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF PROVINCE

A. Location: Kien Hoa is located in the Mekong Delta approximately 85 kilometers south of Saigon. This province is bordered on the southeast by the South China Sea; it borders on Go Cong Province to the northeast, Dinh Tuong Province on the northwest; Vinh Long Province on the west; and Vinh Binh Province to the south. Before flowing into the South China Sea, the Mekong River spreads out like a paper fan; dividing Kien Hoa into three islands by the Cau Dai, Ba Lai, Ham Luong and Co Chien tributaries.

B. Geographic Size: Kien Hoa measures 215,520 hectares and is divided into nine districts - Truc Giang, Binh Dai, Giong Trom, Ba Tri, Ham Long, Huong My, Thanh Phu, Don Nhon and Mo Cay. The population includes about 620,000 inhabitants who cultivate approximately 61 per cent of the land. The population also consists of 120,000 families in these nine districts which are in turn divided into 150 villages and 854 hamlets. The overwhelming majority of the population of Kien Hoa are ethnic Vietnamese.

C. Physical Characteristics:

1. Land - Of the 215,500 hectares approximately 131,877 are available for cultivation. The prospective area for cultivation (waste land) is unknown. The area utilized for rice land is 106,000 square hectares on which was produced 185,000 tons of rice in 1965. Most of the waste land is located at the tip of the three islands which are largely mangrove swamps and inhabited by fishermen.

2. Elevation - The maximum elevation in the province is approximately 5 meters above sea level. Oddly enough, the highest point lies on the coast. It is not uncommon to find an elevation of one meter 40 to 50 kilometers inland. This will give the reader some idea of the extreme flatness of the terrain. This characteristic allows gravity irrigation to be accomplished with a minimum of effort, but presents the problem of salt water intrusion. The entire province is covered by a net of canals and natural waterways, all of which are influenced by tidal action. It is not uncommon to see canals running in the direction corresponding to the rise and fall of the tide 40 kilometers away. The dry season (December until June) is the time when the rivers are lowest and allows intrusion of salt water, with detrimental effects on the croplands. During the rest of the year, the Rainy Season keeps the rivers high and the salt water intrusion is therefore less of a problem. Even at this time, however, a significant saline content may be found as far as 10 or 15 kilometers inland.

3. Roads - Kien Hoa Province has an extensive road system which would normally connect all district with the aid of bridges and ferries. However, due to the security situation, many bridges and ferries have been destroyed and have not been repaired. As a result of this, the entire southern half of the province has been cut off from normal contact with the rest of the province. Some of the central and northern islands can be traveled with an escort when bridges and ferries are intact.

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1. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF PROVINCE (Cont'd)

C. Physical Characteristics: (Cont'd)

Commercial travel, though hindered, still manages to move by a combination of buses, sampans, cyclos, bicycles and horsecarts.

All connections with provinces by road have been severed with the exception of the road and ferry connection with My Tho in Dinh Tuong Province. This road to My Tho, which is also the only route to Saigon, is the only paved road in the province. All other roads are unpaved, and many primary and secondary roads are impassable as a result of VC interference and lack of repair.

4. Waterway - Kien Hoa Province has 40 kilometers of mainland shoreline bordering on the South China Sea. The main inland waterways, which are usable throughout the entire year, amount to approximately 250 kilometers and constitute the main flow of communication and travel within the province. The secondary inland waterways amount to several thousand kilometers which are navigable by small boat.

5. Air Transportation - Kien Hoa has an airfield 1,050 meters by 30 meters capable of receiving DC-3, C-123, Caribous and smaller aircraft. This airfield is located along the road to Ham Long about 5 kilometers from the main provincial town, Truc Giang. The airfield should be approached from the south or east when possible, and a steep descent should be made to avoid low flying over coconut grove areas.

II. HISTORY OF PROVINCE

During the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries, the original ethnic Cambodians were forced out of what is now Kien Hoa Province and moved down to the area which now comprises the provinces of Vinh Binh and Ba Xuyen. There are no ethnic Cambodians left in Kien Hoa Province at the present time. By the eighteenth and latter part of the Nineteenth Centuries, the VietNameese set up their own government system reaching down into the province through the district and village levels. The latter part of the Nineteenth Century saw the introduction of the French and their superimposed colonial system.

Back in history when the country of Thuy Than Lap still existed, the local people called the chief town of Truc Giang, by name of Soc Tre. Soc comes from a Cambodian word which means villages; Tre in VietNameese, means bamboo. Soc Tre thus means a village having plenty of bamboo. In 1619 under Nguyen Hien, VietNameese came and settled in the area. A market was constructed on the bank of the canal near a control post of the Royal Government of Viet Nam. This post checked and collected taxes from merchants passing through the area in junks or boats. Since merchants were caught and to pay taxes there, the place became known by another name Ben Thue (port of Taxes).

Ben Thue (port of Taxes) and Soc Tre (Village of Bamboo) were gradually shortened into Bentre (port of Bamboo). The name Bentre has existed ever

On 23 September 1956 civilians, military and administrative people were called into the Province to attend a conference at Ben Tre. Those attending debated and proposed that the name of the province be changed to Kien Hoa in Lieu of the name Truc Giang. The President of the Republic of Viet Nam passed this proposal by decree. Kien Hoa was extended by the addition of the northern island which was taken from the present Dinh Tuong Province. The new name of Kien Hoa is more expressive: Kien means to build, to construct; Hoa means peace a good agreement.

The people of Kien Hoa consider their province as the birth place and home of the most famous people of southern Viet Nam. The province is noted for many famous generals, diplomats and scholars and has a deep interest in education as a legacy from its great men. One of the greatest names is that of Phan Thanh Gian. The following is a short biography written by Major Quan, the former Deputy Province Chief for Pacification in Kien Hoa:

"Late in the Eighteenth Century a family of Chinese origin came to settle in Bao Thanh village in what is now Ba Tri District as refugees from the war between Tay Son and Nguyen. It was the family of Phan Thanh Gian. When a child, Phan Thanh Gian went to a rural school in Ba Tri District. He continued his studies in Vinh Long where his father was a clerk in the Province Chief's office. A Master of Arts graduate in 1825, Phan Thanh Gian was the first man in the south to graduate Tien Si (equivalent to Ph.D.) in 1826 in the court of Hue. Until his death, all of his life was in complete devotion to his country. He Served from the north to the south under three emperors and climbed to the highest degree of his glorious career.

A man of letters, he wrote over twenty books. He also was a good administrator, known for his integrity and loyalty. Emperor Tu Duc commended him by the four following words: Integrity - Depth - Studiousness - Clear-Sightedness. He also a good diplomat, playing an important role in the relationship between France and Vietnam in the second half of the Nineteenth Century. We find in him all the best qualities of a man in the view of his Chinese culture - loyalty, piety, faithfulness and obligation. These qualities of his have been known throughout history, appreciated by men through generations, and personified in his literary works. To most of the servants in his country and to the kings under whom he served, he always placed the public interest over his own.

The nobility of his entire devotion to country was again shown when he was assigned by Emperor Tu Duc to head a Vietnamese delegation to France in 1863 to undertake negotiations to return three eastern provinces of South Vietnam then occupied by the French. When the negotiations failed because of France's determination to expand her colonial empire, Phan Thanh Gian wrote his most impressive poem.

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II. HISTORY OF PROVINCE (Cont'd)

- "With favorable conditions, and people's minds.
- At our side: Things will easy.
- Public Servants will have opportunity to pay the debt of the country and show their gratitude to the King.
- I have thought that negotiations would bring peace throught the four corners of the sky.
- I did not know that as a result three more province were lost in addition to the first three".

In 1866 Phan thanh Gian was appointed governor of the three western province of South Viet Nam with his office headquartered in Vinh Long. On June 20 of the next year, 1867, the French invaders took Vinh Long and four days later they occupied An Giang and Ha Tien. Phan thanh Gian then committed suicide by a hunger strike and instructed his family to make a very simple funeral. They ^{put} only the following words on his coffin.

"On two sides of great Viet Nam, this is the coffin of old Phan".

The French colonial administration controlled the province up until 1949 with the ex tion of the period during and directly after world War II. Prior to World War II, the French were in actual control of the province and collected taxes, directed the administration, and were in charge of the public works projects that were instituted under their rule. At no time did the French interfere with the VietNameese land owners of the land holding class. They confined themselves to operating the administration with a number of small mills and factories and small amounts of land cultivation.

During the second World War, when the Japanese entered the province they established a VietNameese puppet government and imprisoned those French who had remained in the area. During the period of the Japanese occupation, all land income from coconut and rice accrued to them. Transportation of produce was prohibited; but, otherwise, the VietNameese people were left pretty much to themselves. When the Japanese left in August 1945 the Viet Minh took over and administered the province until February 1946. Their regime was marked by the assassination of many wealthy people along with French and Japanese sympathizers. Their period in power was also characterized by the exchange of Viet Minh money for the legal Indo-Chinese money wick was then exchanged by them with neighboring countries and abroad for hard currency, leaving the local people with the worthless Viet Minh currency.

After the Viet Minh were forced out, the French returned and installed a puppet VietNameese government which remained in force until 1949, at which time independence took place and more VietNameese-controlled government took over.

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HISTORY OF PROVINCE (Cont'd)

One of the most interesting men ever to hold power in Bentre was Colonel Jean Leroy who was Province Chief with all military and civil powers from 1950 when he was thirty years old, and the youngest Colonel in the French Army until 1952. Jean Leroy was born in Binh Dai District of Bentre Province the son of a French peasant from Pithiviers, and a VietNameese peasant mother from Go Cong. His family was so poor that he was unable to attend a French School or learn the French language until he was nine years old, but as a consequence he understood the VietNameese peasant's mind as few French administrators ever did. He became a French officer during the Second World War, at first leading a small group in rebellion against the Japanese, and later against the Viet Minh. In order to fight Viet Minh control he formed "Catholic Brigades", which were later expanded into units named the U.M.D.C. (Mouvements Unites for the Defense of Christianity) and recruited non catholic as well. The basic unit of the U.M.D.C. was the brigade composed of an officer, an adjutant, three sergeants, six corporals, and 49 men. As Province Chief he was able to initiate all his Pacification Plans which he describes as follows:

I divided my Sector into a certain number of zones . . . depending on natural geographical limits . . . Installed solidly in a primary pacified zone, I pushed my units into the next compartment. Slowly with many precautions, while making an oil spot, I advanced towards the regions where the Viet Minh were most solidly installed.

Pacification properly speaking occurs in three steps. First step, my U.M.D.C. occupied a region and cleaned out the islands of enemy resistance, then they installed themselves in the villages. My men knew they had to stay there, that they were not a simple strike force, or a temporary occupation, but a conquest. Very quickly the population understood that this time it was going to be protected, that the reign of the red flag with the yellow star had ended.

After that real pacification began. My first concern was to reconstitute in each village a council of notables, backbone of any VietNameese community. I chose these notables from among the healthy and loyal elements and it was through them that I recruited my self defense militia. U.M.D.C. played the role of intervention units. This militia under the direct control of the communal authorities. Then, in order to create a climate of peace, I reopened the schools or built new ones because many of them had been destroyed. When children laugh in a village, the war is ready to flee. I also installed infirmaries, and maternities, markets were built. The problem of the Chinese was presented. These astute traders were softly strangling the people. They practiced usury at a rate up to 100 percent a month. They also controlled commerce. Some of my men persuaded them to become more tolerant.

Finally I organized sport teams, and built playing fields.

Once the self defence militia was in place, the authority of the notables solidly established, I sent my U.M.D.C. a little further on.

In one year the controlled area of Bentre passed from 46,000 hectares, (3/10 of the Province) to 123,000 hectares (8/10 of the Province). The number of postes passed from 98 to 564.

I don't like posts however, and I tried to construct them as lightly as possible. Men who live enclosed at night behind their pickets and barbed wire acquire very quickly the mentality of rampart lobsters. They no longer go out at night; they live confined. They become afraid and think only of their skin and do not worry about others. A village can very well burn provided they are safe.

"In 1951 the Viet Minh in all the area which the U.M.D.C. controlled was only able to collect 151,000 piastes in taxes, where as before they had collected 40 million. Legal authorities collected 30 million ...

I give you some figures:

Area under cultivation: Hectares: 1954, 116,470; 1950, 59,000; 1952, 113,000.

Exportation of paddy — 1945, 195,000 ton; 1950, 59,000 tons; 1952, 187,000 tons

Education — Before 1950: 39 schools, 170 teachers, 7,935 students.

1952: 153 schools, 617 teachers, 35,107 students.

Dispensaries and maternities — Before 1950: 5; 1952: 120.

In November 1952 Colonel Peroy was relieved of his functions at Bentre and was made military commander in the VietNameese Army of 5 of the old Provinces just south of Saigon.

In April he was sent to France to study at the Ecole de Guerre. Before the end of 1953 Bentre had returned to its previous condition thirty percent Government control.

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II. HISTORY OF PROVINCE (Cont'd)

Kien Hoa was one of the last areas evacuated by the Viet Minh in 1956, but even then many Viet Cong Cadre remained behind, such as the present Viet Cong Province Chief for example. The Vietnamese government never really regained full control of the Province and their position in Kien Hoa has been going downhill for at least the past six years. Now government control is almost exactly the same as it was in 1953, about thirty percent of the population. The Viet Cong place a high priority on the Province and have constantly fought all government efforts to gain further control. They have the capacity to operate in large, well armed units and entirely control the southeastern end of Binh Dai District, the southeastern half of Thanh Phu District and most of the southern island. The VC have the capacity to export produce from the province to support their activities in other areas. They also have been more successful in recruiting manpower in Kien Hoa Province than has the Government and much of this manpower is sent to other provinces which have difficulties in recruitment.

Until November 29, 1965, the Province Chief was Lt. Col. Tran Ngoc Chau a very intelligent individual whose ideas on pacification are now in part being used nationally. It was he for instance who first started using Census Grievance Cadre. Very appropriately he is now General Than's deputy in charge of cadre in the Ministry of Rural Construction.

Colonel Chau was replaced by Lt. Col. Huynh Phat Dat, a very energetic and active leader, who has, for instance, doubled the number of operations per month since he assumed control. Lt. Col. Day describes himself as an old soldier "who is not interested in politics". He is forty-eight years old, a widower and has five children, all boys at school in Saigon except for the youngest, five years old, who lives with his father in Kien Hoa. In the period before independence, Huynh Phat Dat, spent a total of four years in French prisons as a result of his anti French activity.

In 1951 however, he joined the independent Vietnamese Army and quickly acquired the rank of major. He served in various capacities in the Vietnamese Army under Diem and was Chief of Operations for the fifth Military Corps (similar to our present Fourth Corps Area) from 1959 to 1962. Just prior to his present assignment, he was administrator of Con Son, Vietnam's Prison Island.

A detailed yet flexible and realistic pacification plan was written in January, 1966 and is now in the process of being implemented. It is realistic in that it limits plans to what can reasonably be achieved considering present force levels. Considering these possibilities, at the end of 1966 the Government will control only a little bit more of the Province than that which it presently controls. However, that which is controlled, should be more firmly controlled, and the population hopefully, will be even more committed to the Central Government. It is primarily in support of this Pacification effort that United States Financial Aid, through the rural construction budget, and commodity aid as well as the USAID, MACV and JUSPAO advisory are directed.

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II. HISTORY OF PROVINCE (cont'd)

C. Religious Groupings:

(Approximation of Population)

Buddhist	72,315
Catholic	40,492
Confucian	460,811
Cao Dai	41,382
Hoa Hao (Ham Lon District)	5,000

III. POPULATION FACTS

There are no significant minority population groups in Kien Hoa.

IV. POLITICO - ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

Kien Hoa Province has nine districts, all of which are self-administered with the exception of Don Khon District. Don Khon District is administered from the provincial capital of Truc Giang. Canons are generally unimportant in the Kien Hoa administrative organization. Of the nine districts, only three - those on the northern island - are more than 50 per cent under government control.

V. ECONOMY

A. Agriculture:

1. Rice Production - (No hectares with two crops annually: 5,000Ha).

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ha. Paddy</u>	<u>Fertilized</u>	<u>Produced</u>	<u>Exported</u>
1959	114,522	1,500	206,140	20,221
1960	110,379	3,500	198,628	26,660
1961	109,375	5,000	175,000	16,804
1962	110,000	8,000	190,000	16,025
1963	110,000	10,000	198,120	18,601
1964	102,000	30,000	206,000	7,000
1965	106,000		185,000	3,000

2. Other Major Crops

Total Average Annual Production

Coconut	70,000,000 coconuts
Sugar-cane	6,140 tons
Tobacco	108,600 kilo
Other tree fruit	14,598 tons

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V. ECONOMY (Cont'd)

B. Major Industries:

	(Number of factories)	(People Employed)
Soap	7	30
Brick making	7	50
Fish Sauce Plants	22	50
Rice Mills	89	450
Coconut Oil Extraction Plants	4	20

C. Family Occupational Breakdown:

<u>(Occupation)</u>	<u>(Number of families)</u>
Farming	85,701
Fishing	2,706
Livestock Raising	(80% of the population)
Industry	792
Business/Commerce	2,972
Government	2,241
Profession/Trades	2,976

D. Land:

1. Land Ownership and Tenant Situation -

a. land owners not working on land	67
b. Farmers working on part of all of own land	49,689
c. Farmers renting land with a contract	24,545
d. Farmers renting land without a contract	152,552
e. Farmers not owning or renting land and working for other farmers	4,130

2. Breakdown of Land Ownership (hectares) -

	<u>(Riceland)</u>	<u>(Other)</u>	<u>(Unused Land)</u>
a. Privately Owned	100,042 ha.	22,718 ha.	8,923 ha.
b. Communal Land	8,112	1,958	787
c. Government Owned	<u>12,152</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>1,847</u>
	120,306 ha.	24,676 ha.	11,557 ha.

3. Breakdown of Landlord Holdings-

	<u>(No. of Landowners)</u>
1 through 5 hectares	46,317
6 through 20 hectares	2,907
21 through 50 hectares	377
51 through 100 hectares	80
Over 100 hectares	None.

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VI.- US TEAM IN PROVINCE:

A. USAID: The USAID Organization in Kien Hoa consists of a Provincial Representative, an Assistant Provincial Representative, A Phillipino Civic Action Self-Help Assistant, a Phillipino Civic Action Liaison Officer, a Vietnamese Area Specialist, two Vietnamese General Rural Technicians, two secretaries and a chauffeur.

B. MACV: The MACV Organization is commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel with a staff in Ben Tre consisting of 35 men, and a total of 39 additional men broken down into eight sub sector teams. There are no American Units in Province, consequently most American Military personnel have advisory or support functions, Included in these numbers are four Air Force Personnel, and two Army Air personnel who operate L-19 Observation Planes directly from Ben Tre airport.

C. JUSPAO: The Juspao organization consists of one Representative who has responsibility also for Go Cong Province, and one Vietnamese professional.

VII.- Summary of USAID Programs and Projects:

USAID is primarily concerned with aiding the Vietnamese government implement its pacification programs, and assisting the GVN in its efforts to win the allegiance of the people. USAID helps plan, advises on implementation of, and has joint sign off responsibility with GVN and MACV for the Rural Construction Budget which totalled 38,341,201 \$VN in 1965 and 40,437,000 \$VN in 1966. In addition 4,442 tons of USAID commodities worth \$433,502 US were shipped into Province last year and were used by the Vietnamese Administration with USAID concurrence in support of its programs. Details of these budgets and programs follow.

A. In order to achieve pacification, and a more meaningful GVN presence in the countryside, it has been necessary to strengthen and reconstruct local hamlet and village governments. The action agents for this reconstruction program have been Government Cadre. In 1965, they were divided into several different varieties, each with a specialized function. Thus there were Administrative cadre, to help reconstitute administrations, New Life Hamlet Cadre, to help attract the people to the hamlet government by implementing self-help projects, peoples organizations, etc. There were Census Grievance Cadre to take a census of the people, to organize them into family groups, and to regularly survey their needs and grievances. There were Armed Propaganda teams and Political action Teams who were armed cadre operating on the fringes of government control, and were the advance elements of new governmental administrative expansion. In 1966 all these cadre have been reorganized into 59 man Rural Construction Cadre Teams which combine the essentials of all these elements. All now receive the same salary, 2500 \$VN per month, and are no longer paid from the Rural Construction Budget. (The amount shown in the 1966 Budget under New Life Hamlet Cadre is for the first two months of 1966 only). There are about 1000 of these cadre in Province. In addition there are Technical Cadre such as 198 hamlet school teachers, 46 agricultural cadre, 63 health cadre 12 Social Welfare cadre, 9 youth Cadre, 17 Chieu Hoi Cadre, and 60 VIS cadre. Most of these are supported by the Rural Construction Budget.

The actual hamlet and village officials we are attempting to strengthen are not considered cadre, and they are paid from regular Ministry budgets rather than the Rural Construction Budget. Much difficulty is encountered in recruiting personnel for these positions since their salaries are only about half the salaries

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SUMMARY OF USAID PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS (CONT.)

of regular cadre. 1300\$VN per month for a hamlet chief, and 1600\$VN for a village chief.

B. One of the strongest weapons for winning the sympathy of the people in the Rural Construction Budget is the Self Help Project. Funds were allotted for construction of one project at 30,000\$VN per project in each of 150 hamlets in 1965. In fact many additional projects were constructed without funds, but only with USAID/GVN commodity support for the peoples own efforts. As shown in the attached chart, 195 projects were completed as of February 1, and 122 additional projects are still under construction. In each of these cases, the project that the people and their immediate superiors, the hamlet chief and village chiefs wanted. No contractors were ever used. Each project was under the direct supervision of a hamlet chief, or a representative of the people.

C. The Rural Construction Budget provides for the relocation of refugees. In 1965 9,440,000\$VN was allotted to pay 3,500\$VN to each of 1,600 refugees families, with which they were theoretically able to build a house and begin a new life. Within this fund money was also provided to supply a six months rice ration. Provincial records indicate that 3350 families were relocated during 1965. Each of these families received from 2000 to 3000\$VN. We have no indication that any rice was given to relocated families, but since this is a rice surplus province the problem is not the same as it is in Central Vietnam. It is however, impossible to build a house with 2000\$VN or even 3500\$VN. Consequently this program must be considered a failure during 1965. In the 1966 Budget 6,500,000\$VN has been budgetted for relocation. USAID has persuaded Vietnamese officials to utilize this money in conjunction with construction commodities in an effort to begin a realistic family relocation policy.

D. Miscellaneous or Unforeseen Expenses: The 1964 agreement provided 1,000,000 piasters for unforeseen expenses. This fund was the most useful fund available to the Provincial Committee in 1964 in that it provided flexibility and the means to implement important projects which could not be programmed far in advance. Large amounts from the miscellaneous or unforeseen expenses fund were used as loans to repay war victims until funds were available through proper channels, loans to the provincial radio station to carry on its operation until it received its operating budget from VTVN, rewards for meritorious and heroic acts, the initial funding of projects that were without ministerial support, the support of the provincial newspaper and the printing of leaflets for psywar operations, the support of youth activities and many other unforeseen or miscellaneous expenses.

E. Transportation Support: Transportation support (POL) in the amount of 1,021,441 piasters was made available under the 1965 Budget to be used for all expenses incidental to transportation of USAID and M&P materials including purchase of POL and labor costs, funds warehouse rental or construction if necessary. A revolving fund was set up within the provincial supply system to provide ready cash for the payment of transportation and labor costs.

F. Hamlet Schools: In 1965, 6,778,300 piasters were made available for the construction of 76 new classrooms and the training of 85 additional

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A.- PERSONALITIES

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS

1.	Province Chief-----	NGUYEN PHAT DAT
2.	Deputy Province Chief for Administration-----	NGUYEN DUY PHUOC
3.	" Security-----	HUA YEN LEN
4.	" Pacification-----	NGUYEN MANH HUNG
5.	Post office service chief-----	VO NHUT HAO
6.	Public Works Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN DINH
7.	Police service Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN CUNG
8.	Animal Husbandry Chief-----	PHAN VAN NGOC
9.	Primary education Chief-----	TRAN BA AN
10.	Agriculture service Chief-----	NGUYEN XUAN HAN
11.	NACO Chief-----	BUI KHANH HUY
12.	Land reform service Chief-----	NGUYEN KIM LONG
13.	Direct tax service Chief -----	HUYNH DANG GIAI
14.	Indirect Tax Service Chief-----	TA QUANG THOI
15.	Chieu Hoi Service Chief-----	TRAN TRUNG TRUC
16.	VIS Chief-----	DUONG VAN HUONG
17.	Administration Service Chief-----	HA TAN DOM
18.	Financial service chief-----	DUONG THE KE
19.	Social Welfare service chief -----	HO VAN MANH
20.	Reconstruction Service Chief-----	HUYNH VAN THOI
21.	Economic Service chief -----	NGUYEN VAN DUC
22.	Provincial Treasury Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN BE
23.	Provincial Inner Security Chief-----	PHAM CONG NEN
24.	Health Service Chief-----	HO HUU QUYEN
25.	Youth Service Chief-----	NGUYEN THANH LIEM
26.	Cooperatives Chief-----	DUONG BUU DANG
27.	Provincial Cabinet Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN UC
28.	The Psywar Block-----	Capt. TRAN VAN HIEN
29.	Civic Action Section-----	PHAN VI
30.	P.A.T.-----	Capt. BUI THANH NAM
31.	Special Forces-----	Capt. VO HOANG DIEN
32.	Prison -----	DO VAN BA
33.	Rural Health development Service-----	DO QUANG KE
34.	Radio Station Manager-----	NGUYEN THANH NHAN
35.	Principal of the high School-----	HUYNH PHU HIEP
36.	Communications Chief-----	TRAN LONG THANH
37.	Public Relations Section Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN VANG
38.	Regiment 10-----	Col. NGUYEN VAN DAC
39.	The 41st Ranger Battalion-----	Major DOAN THE
40.	Military S-2-----	Capt. DUONG QUOC ANH

B. ELECTED PROVINCIAL COUNSEL

1.	Chairman-----	LE QUANG HAO
2.	Vice Chairman-----	LE DUY YEN
3.	Secretary-----	NGUYEN DINH HIEU

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B. ELECTED PROVINCIAL COUNSEL (Cont'd)

4.	Member	-----	-----	NGUYEN QUI VINH
5.	"	-----	-----	BUI VAN DUONG
6.	"	-----	-----	TONG THANH LAN
7.	"	-----	-----	TRAN VAN DINH
8.	"	-----	-----	NGUYEN NGOC HUNG
9.	"	-----	-----	HUYNH VAN AN
10.	"	-----	-----	BUI VAN XUAN
11.	"	-----	-----	NGUYEN VAN TY
12.	"	-----	-----	LE VAN NINH

C. DISTRICT CHIEFS

1.	THANH PHU DISTRICT CHIEF	-----	-----	Capt. CAO VAN TAM
2.	DON NHON	"	-----	Capt. DUONG VAN GIOI
3.	MO CAI	"	-----	Capt. DANG XANH
4.	HAM LONG	"	-----	Capt. TRAN HUYNH HOI
5.	TRUC GIANG	"	-----	Capt. NGUYEN TAN LUC
6.	GIONG TROM	"	-----	Capt. LE VAN THANH
7.	BA TRI	"	-----	Capt. LE QUANG CUNG
8.	BINH DAI	"	-----	Capt. BUI TAN BUU
9.	HUONG MY	"	-----	Capt. LE VAN SON

D. RELIGIOUS LEADERS

1.	REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION	-----	Dai-Duc THICH THIEN TINH
2.	LEADER OF THE BEN TRE CAO DAI SECT	-----	Dau Su THUONG THUOC THANH
			Dau Su NGOC BIEN THANH
			Dau Su THAI HO THANH
3.	LEADER OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN KIENHOA	-----	Catholic priest PHAM TUAN TRI
4.	PROTESTANT MINISTER	-----	Protestant minister TRUONG PHAT DAT

KIEN HOA P R O V I N C E

SUMMARY OF USAID PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS (CONT'D)

teachers plus miscellaneous other support. All but 8 of these classrooms have been completed and 49 Self-Help classrooms were built.

56 new classrooms are Budgetted under 1966 Budget and funds to train 53 additional teachers.

In 1964, 76 new classrooms were completed under the Hamlet School program and 17 more under the Self-help Program. In addition 91 teachers were trained and put to work with the equipment and materials necessary to do their jobs.

Various statistics concerning Education in Kien Hoa are Attached.

G. Chieu-Hoi : A 100,000\$VN addition to the Chieu Hoi Center was built in 1965, and 250,000\$VN has been allotted for further expansion in 1966. There were 370 returnees in 1965.

H. Warehouses: 1,1000,000\$VN is provided in the 1966 budget to construct one provincial warehouse and four district warehouses.

I. Public Works: Funds are provided in the 1966 budget for only 6 kilometres of road construction. In addition 7,500,000 has been budgetted to construct a bridge across the Ben Tre River.

J. Agriculture: FUNDS are Provided in the 1966 Budget to several kilometres of new irrigation canals; to pay the salaries of 46 cadre, to distribute 300 pigs, to distribute new rice seeds and insecticides, new fish for fish ponds, and pumps for irrigation. Similar work was successfully completed in 1965. Agricultural extension programs, including a home economics program was initiated and continues in 1966.

In 1964 among the many activities assisted in the agricultural field one was the provision of 90 tons of improved rice seed to be used for improving the rice crop in Kien Hoa Province. Complementary to this was some 240 metric tons of fertilizer. Approximately 400,000 piasters were received to purchase 80,000 coconut trees to improve the coconut production and the quality of coconuts in Kien Hoa Province. Kien Hoa also purchased an amount of sugarcane from Tay Ninh Province which will be used to expand the sugarcane crop of Kien Hoa Province.

K. Additional USAID Activities:

1. Earth Block Machines: USAID has provided nine earth block machines to be used at the hamlet and village levels for the construction of self-help projects. To date, some 50,000 bricks have been manufactured by this process and several small buildings have been constructed.

2. Education: The Education Service here has been assisted by USAID in the following ways: by providing a duplicating machine for dissemination of information to the teachers throughout the province; by supplying tape recorders, slide projectors and other educational material including school kits. The

KIEN HOA P R O V I N C E

SUMMARY OF USAID PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS(Cont'd)

Education Department here has also benefited by visits from USAID Education advisors.

3. Rural Electrification: Four projects were approved in 1964-65 and three completed for the electrification of four areas. Included among these areas are the district town in Ham Long, the village headquarters in An Hoa/An Phuoc village, Thanh Tan village which is adjacent to the provincial capital, and My Long village in Giong Trom District which is still under construction. In 1966 all Requests for electrification must be made by the Vietnamese Directly to the Directorate of water supply.

4. Health: A complete operational surgical suite was put into operation at the provincial hospital during the year 1964. In addition to the surgical suite, two district maternity/dispensary units were funded during 1964 - one in Giong Trom District was completed in 1964 the other one at Huong My District. Medical and surgical supplies have been received from USOM at all levels throughout the province. Additional facilities as noted in attached self-help chart were constructed in 1965: 5 Dispensaries, 4 Maternities, 14 Aid Stations. In January 1966, USAID arranged for the arrival in Kien Hoa and support for an Iranian Surgical Team consisting of a Colonel-leader, two surgeons, two technicians, and 15 nurses. The Team, operating under a full schedule at the Provincial Hospital, with some visits to District facilities, has earned the admiration and gratitude of Vietnamese at all levels of society.

5. Information: In July of 1964 a provincial radio station was opened with the assistance of USAID Communications Media Division. One thousand radios were thereafter received and have been sold throughout the province at 1,000 piasters each. The 1,000 piasters, having been forwarded to Saigon, is to be received back into the province for support of the radio station. An additional 3,600 radios were distributed by NACO in 1965 at 800\$VN each. In addition to the radio station program, the Vietnamese Information Service in Kien Hoa Province has been supplied with equipment, tri-lambrettas, projectors, and maintenance and miscellaneous facilities by USAID over the past year.

6. Public Safety: The Public Safety Division of USAID has provided radios for the defense system of Kien Hoa Province at the Hamlet, village and district levels. The program is perhaps one of the most effective and useful projects in which USAID involves itself. Recently, an additional 75 radios were supplied by USAID/PSD for dissemination at the hamlet level. USAID also provides the technical advice through the PSD advisor located in the province.

7. Water: The Public Works Division of USAID surveyed the possibility of installing a new pure water supply system for the capital of Kien Hoa Province. Work has now begun on this Project under supervision of the Director

KIEN HOA P R O V I N C E

SUMMARY OF USAID PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS (Cont'd)

Of water supply. A new pure water system was completed in An Phuoc village which was supported by military civic action and civilian community action. In late 1965 and early 1966 three pure water systems were installed by USAID and ARMY Engineers in cooperation with Vietnamese Engineers and authorities.

8. Coordination with American Voluntary Relief Agencies:

USAID Kien Hoa has entered into an agreement with the various Voluntary agencies operating in Saigon to coordinate distribution of their commodities in close cooperation with MACV Sub-Sector Advisors, and Vietnamese Welfare Workers in Kien Hoa. CARE items such as school kits, textile packages and sewing kits are very popular and are being received in Kien Hoa by the thousands. Catholic Relief shipped 50 tons of U.S. surplus food commodities and a couple dozen bales of used clothing on March 8, for example. Within one week 90% of this had already been distributed to refugees, orphans and needy people.

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RURAL CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

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<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>1965 BUDGET</u>	<u>1966 BUDGET</u>
1. LNH Cadres	3,432,000\$00	882,000\$00
2. Resettlement	9,440,000\$00	6,500,000\$00
3. Self-Help	4,500,000\$00	3,500,000\$00
4. Transport	1,021,441\$00	1,360,000\$00
5. Land Clearing		450,000\$00
6. Warehouse		1,100,000\$00
7. Roads & Bridges	5,050,000\$00	10,787,000\$00
8. Education	6,778,300\$00	8,000,000\$00
9. Chieu Hoi	2,350,000\$00	2,684,000\$00
10. Irrigation	1,500,000\$00	1,500,000\$00
11. Animal Husbandry	1,354,000\$00	1,002,000\$00
12. Agriculture	1,958,000\$00	1,296,000\$00
13. Agricultural Extension	643,000\$00	(in Ministry Budget)
14. Fisheries	314,000\$00	368,000\$00
15. Unforseen	1,000,000\$00	1,000,000\$00
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TOTAL:	38,341,201\$00	40,437,000\$00

LIST OF USOM COMMODITIES RECEIVED IN KIE HOA
D U R I N G 1 9 6 5

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DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	NETRIC TONS	COST PER TON	TOTAL COST
1 Cement	38,600bg x 50 kilo	1930	\$26	50,180
2 Roofing Sheet (ALUM)	26,832sh x 4	107	770	82,390
3 Roofing (fibercem)	21,120 x 14	296	102\$40	30,192
4 Bulgur (45 kg bags)	15,000bg x 45	675	87\$90	57,200
5 Bulgur (30 kg bags)	12,630 x 30	379	87\$90	33,352
6 Cooking Oil	53,393 x 4	213	255\$50	54,525
7 Corn	3,450 b x 50	172	74\$90	12,900
8 Dry milk	1,330 x 15	20	387\$52	6,760
9 Reinforcing bars		200	180\$00	36,000
10 Miscellaneous items such as generators, village tool kits, blacksmith tools, ware- housing equipment, water pipes, paint, blan- kets, mosquitonets, clothing and etc... about		250	(Rough estimate)	50,000
11 Psywar Food stuffs		200	:(Rough estimate)	20,000
TOTAL COST:		4.442 tons		\$433,502

1965 DOLLAR COST OF USAID KIEN HOA
RURAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

1.- Cost of USAID Commodities
use in Province \$433,502

2.- Rural Construction Budget
38,341,201 Piastres (120\$VN = \$1.00US \$319,510

TOTAL: \$753,012

POPULATION OF KIENHOA 620,000

Rural Construction Budget aid per person \$0.51

Value of Commodity Aid Per Person \$0.70

TOTAL USAID COMMODITY and Rural
Construction Program outlay per person \$1.21

1965 SELF-HELP PROJECTS

A. NO. OF PROJECTS APPROVED	317
B. NO. OF PROJECTS COMPLETED	195
C. NO. OF PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION	122
D. BREAKDOWN OF PROJECTS (COMPLETED AND BEING CONSTRUCTED)	
1. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION - 49 CLASSROOMS (14 SCHOOL)	
2. SCHOOL REPAIR - 92 CLASSROOMS (35 SCHOOLS)	
3. DISPENSARIES CONSTRUCTED - 5	
4. DISPENSARIES REPAIRED - 2	
5. MATERNITY DISPENSARY CONSTRUCTED - 1	
6. MATERNITY DISPENSARY REPAIRED - 2	
7. MATERNITY CONSTRUCTED - 3	
8. MATERNITY REPAIRED - 7	
9. AID STATION CONSTRUCTED - 14	
10. HAMLET OFFICE CONST. - 47	
11. HAMLET OFFICE REPAIRED - 7	
12. VILLAGE OFFICE REPAIRED - 3	
13. ELECTRICITY PROJECTS - 2	
14. BRIDGES - 29	
15. WATER OBSERVOIRS - 11	
16. INFO STATIONS - 24	
17. FISH MARKET - 5	
18. REGULAR MARKET - 13	
19. WATCH TOWER - 1	
20. ORPHANAGE - 1	

21. DISTRICT ATS OFFICE - 2
22. DINH REPAIR - 12
23. IRRIGATION PROJECTS - 8
24. ROAD REPAIR - 6
25. CULVERTS - 5
26. LATRINE - 8
27. READINGROOM -1
28. WATER PUMP SHELTER - 1
29. WATER TOWER STAND - 2
30. SECURITY OFFICE - 2
31. SCHOOL GATE - 2
32. WELL DUC - 30
33. HAMLET ARCH
34. CONCRETE PIER -6
35. DRAINAGE SYSTEM - 5

1965 NONE SELF-HELP PROJECTS
SUPPORTED WITH USAID COMMODITIES.

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1/PF Dependent Housing
for 846 families

a. Cement 6,185 bags
b. Roofing 10,915 sheets

2/ Housing for Relocated families

a. Cement 625 bags
b. Roofing 3,500 sheets

3/ Traing center

a. Cement 208 bags
b. Roofing 1,000 sheets

4/ Chieu Hoi Center

a. Cement 214 bags
b. Roofing 124 sheets

5/ Radio Station Kien Hoa

a. Cement 45 bags
b. Roofing 15 sheets

6/ Police Control Posts

a. Cement 122 bags
b. Roofing 106 sheets

7/ Bunkers at Airfield

a. Cement 300 bags.

E DUCATION

POPULATION OF KIEN HOA	620,000
PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS (FIVE GRADES)	54,000
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (SEVEN GRADES)	6,000
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVING THE FIRST BACCALAUREATE DECREE	
1964	131
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVING THE SECOND BACCALAUREATE DECREE	
1965	59
RURAL CONSTRUCTION BUDGET HAMLET SCHOOLS CONSTRUCTED IN	
1965	76
SELF-HELP HAMLET SCHOOLS CONSTRUCTED IN 1965	49
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF EDUCATION APPROVED HIGH SCHOOL	
CONSTRUCTION IN 1965	none
SELF-HELP CONSTRUCTED HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOMS IN 1965	
(MONEY FURNISHED BY PEOPLE WITH USOM COMMODITIES)	8
SELF-HELP SCHOOL CLASSROOMS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION	6

BREAKDOWN OF CHIL POPULATION AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN A TYPICAL HAMLET.

SON DONG VILLAGE SCHOOL (1964-65 SCHOOL YEAR)

<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>NUMBER WHO GO TO SCHOOL</u>	<u>T O T A L CHILDREN</u>
1959	198	230
1958	135	148
57	105	118
56	104	110
55	61	76
54	35	47
53	20	45
52	1	68
51	1	40
50	0	59
49	0	24
48	4 High School	44
47	0	
46	0	
45	0	
44	0	

IN 1965-66 School year there were 15 more High School Students. This is a result of the completion in 1964 of a complete primary school offering a Certificate thus for the first time in this hamlet preparing students for High School.

PROVINCE : KIEN HOA

CTTY: TRUC GIANG

COMMODITIES	UNITS	SEPT. 1965	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN. 1966	FEB. 1966	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Rice (100 kg)	100 kg	900\$	950	850	800	850	900						
Beefteak	1 kg					130	100						
Pork	1kg					120	120						
Condensed Milk	1 kg	16	17	16,5	20	40	34						
Brown Sugar	1 kg					40	34						
Chicken	each					200	210						
Lumber	cubic M	7,000\$	8,000\$	9,000\$	10,000\$	10,000\$	11,000						
Cement	lbag	120	130	170	not available								
Sand	1kg	200	200	280	295	240	240						
Gravel	cubic M	1000	1200	1200	900	1,500	1,300						
Charcoal	1kg					540	480						
Fibro						135	140						
Roofing Tin						120	120						

KIEN HOA P R O V I N C E

A.- PERSONALITIES

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS

1.	Province Chief-----	NGUYEN PHAT DAT
2.	Deputy Province Chief for Administration-----	NGUYEN DUY PHUOC
3.	" Security-----	HUA YEN LEN
4.	" Pacification-----	NGUYEN MANH HUNG
5.	Post office service chief-----	VO NHUT HAO
6.	Public Works Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN DINH
7.	Police service Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN CUNG
8.	Animal Husbandry Chief-----	PHAN VAN NGOC
9.	Primary education Chief-----	TRAN BA AN
10.	Agriculture service Chief-----	NGUYEN XUAN HON
11.	NACO Chief-----	BUI KHANH HUY
12.	Land reform service Chief-----	NGUYEN KIM LONG
13.	Direct tax service Chief-----	HUYNH DANG GIAI
14.	Indirect Tax Service Chief-----	TA QUANG THOI
15.	Chieu Hoi Service Chief-----	TRAN TRUNG TRUC
16.	VIS Chief-----	DUONG VAN HUONG
17.	Administration Service Chief-----	HA TAN DOM
18.	Financial service chief-----	DUONG THE KE
19.	Social Welfare service chief-----	HO VAN MANH
20.	Reconstruction Service Chief-----	HUYNH VAN THOI
21.	Economic Service chief-----	NGUYEN VAN DUC
22.	Provincial Treasury Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN BE
23.	Provincial Inner Security Chief-----	PHAM CONG NEN
24.	Health Service Chief-----	HO HUU TUYEN
25.	Youth Service Chief-----	NGUYEN THANH LIEM
26.	Cooperatives Chief-----	DUONG BUU DANG
27.	Provincial Cabinet Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN UT
28.	The Psywar Block-----	Capt. TRAN VAN HIEN
29.	Civic Action Section-----	PHAN VI
30.	P.A.T.-----	Capt. BUI THANH NAM
31.	Special Forces-----	Capt. VO HOANG DIEN
32.	Prison-----	DO VAN BA
33.	Rural Health descolpment Service-----	DO QUANG KE
34.	Radio Station Manager-----	NGUYEN THANH NHAN
35.	Principal of the high School-----	HUYNH PHU HIEP
36.	Communications Chief-----	TRAN LONG THANH
37.	Public Relations Section Chief-----	NGUYEN VAN VANG
38.	Regiment 10-----	Col. NGUYEN VAN DAC
39.	The 41st Ranger Battalion-----	Major DOAN THE
40.	Military 3-2-----	Capt. DUONG QUOC ANH

B. ELECTED PROVINCIAL COUNSEL

1.	Chairman-----	LE QUANG HAO
2.	Vice Chairman-----	LE DUY YEN
3.	Secretary-----	NGUYEN DINH HIEU

KIENHOA PROVINCE

B. ELECTED PROVINCIAL COUNSEL (Cont'd)

4.	Member	-----	-----	NGUYEN QUI VINH
5.	"	-----	-----	BUI VAN DUONG
6.	"	-----	-----	TONG THANH LAN
7.	"	-----	-----	TRAN VAN DINH
8.	"	-----	-----	NGUYEN NGOC HUNG
9.	"	-----	-----	HUYNH VAN AN
10.	"	-----	-----	BUI VAN XUAN
11.	"	-----	-----	NGUYEN VAN TY
12.	"	-----	-----	LE VAN NINH

C. DISTRICT CHIEFS

1.	THANH PHU DISTRICT CHIEF	-----	-----	Capt. CAO VAN TAM
2.	DON NHON	"	-----	Capt. DUONG VAN GIOI
3.	MO CAI	"	-----	Capt. DANG XANH
4.	HAM LONG	"	-----	Capt. TRAN HUYNH HOI
5.	TRUC GIANG	"	-----	Capt. NGUYEN TAN LUC
6.	GIONG TROM	"	-----	Capt. LE VAN THANH
7.	BA TRI	"	-----	Capt. LE QUANG CUNG
8.	BINH DAI	"	-----	Capt. BUI TAN BUU
9.	HUONG MY	"	-----	Capt. LE VAN SON

D. RELIGIOUS LEADERS

1.	REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION	-----	Dai-Duc THICH THIEN TINH
2.	LEADER OF THE BEN TRE CAO DAI SECT	-----	Dau Su THUONG THUOC THANH
			Dau Su NGOC BIEN THANH
			Dau Su THAI HO THANH
3.	LEADER OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN KIENHOA	-----	Catholic priest PHAM TUAN TRI
4.	PROTESTANT MINISTER	-----	Protestant miniter TRUONG PHAT DAT